REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The amendment to the claim is editorial in nature. Full support for the amendment exists in the application as originally filed including, but not limited to, the claims as originally filed. Finally, this amendment places the application in a better condition for appeal. Accordingly, no question of new matter should arise and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-46 are pending in the application. Claims 11, 14-35, 37, 38, 44, and 45 have been withdrawn.

The amendment to claim 3 replaces "packing material" with "granulated product" to provide proper antecedent basis.

The claims as set forth in the Appendix of the Brief on Appeal reflect the amendment to claim 3.

Appellants' Amendment U.S. Patent Application No. 09/944,064

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the appellants respectfully request entry of the amendment, in conjunction with Appeal Brief filed herewith.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of the response, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 03-0060. If a fee is requested for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and should also be charged to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

KILYK & BOWERSOX, P.L.L.C.

Luke A. Kilyk Reg. No. 33,251

Atty. Docket No. 01048 (3600-297) KILYK & BOWERSOX, P.L.L.C. 53A East Lee Street Warrenton, VA 20186

Tel.: (540) 428-1701

Fax.: (540) 428-1720